

ADDRESS BY MISS GAVILLER

Having been in charge of the housekeeping at the Home since September, 1915, I have been asked to tell you something about that department.

It is a very important part of the work that all the patients should have really good meals and be well nourished. The Diet List was submitted to Headquarters for approval. Of course there are always several special diets, but the common diet we have been told by our patients is very good, though simple. I have chosen two days' menus, which may be of some interest to you. The breakfast is always the same:—porridge, coffee or tea, boiled eggs, bread, butter, jam and marmalade.

LUNCHEON

Cauliflower and cheese.
Fish and fried potatoes.
Tapioca pudding and cream.

DINNER

Tomato soup.
Roast beef, potatoes and salsafy.
Chocolate pudding with cream.

The Home supplies Lime Juice.

In the dining-room, which was a long room facing the sea, there was a big table for eighteen officers, and also two small tables, one being kept for superior officers. There are always fresh flowers on the tables, and we try to have everything pretty and dainty, which is a joy to our patients after the rough life of the trenches. We have our own dining-room and our meals are rather disturbed, as while the officers are at mess and the rest of the house free, the Staff are busy tidying the sitting-rooms and the wards. Three sisters are at this time serving in the pantry.

Two sisters are on duty every afternoon from 2.00 to 6.00 p.m. This entails all preparation for tea, answering the telephone, taking messages, answering the door, etc. At this time and in the evenings we are expected to be on duty downstairs. All the patients are in their rooms at 10.30 p.m. and the lights are put out on the ground floor.

There are five orderlies detailed to us by Base Headquarters; these men have been in the trenches and are permanently unfitted for the front line so are put on light duty at the Base. They are generally old regulars who have seen many wars. They sleep and have meals at their own billets, except the Corporal who is always on duty at the Home. Fraser had thirty-two years of service to his credit. They are always busy cleaning the officers' boots, belts and